2002-2003

Saturday, October 26, 2002, 8 p.m.
Church of the Redeemer

Faculty of Music
Presents

CELEBRATE

MACMILLAN SINGERS
Doreen Rao, conductor
Rupert Lang, guest conductor

I

In short, there are these things that last: faith, hope and love, and the greatest of these is love. – I Corinthians 13:13

Maurice Duruflé — Ubi Caritas (sur des Themes Grégoriens)

II

Music praises God. Music is well or better able to praise Him than the building of the Church and all its decoration: it is the Church's greatest ornament. – Igor Stravinsky

Maurice Duruflé — Kyrie (from Requiem, Op. 9)

Anton Bruckner — Locus Iste

John Burge* — Sanctus (from Mass for Prisoners of Conscience)

W.A. Mozart — Venite, Populi (KV260)

Rupert Lang* — Agneau de Dieu

III

And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing! – Luke 2:13

Rupert Lang* — Sanctus (from Mass for many Nations)

INTERMISSION

IV

John Burge* — Winter Sun "A Choral Symphony in C"

I. The Fallen, Fallen World
II. Identity
III. Once
IV. Patience
V. Thaw

Percussionists—Richard Burrows, Robert Foster, Michael Gambacurta, Christa Mercey, Niamh Ni She

V

Rupert Lang*

Yabban Yamman

Like a Child
Erin Morgan, Solo

How Like an Angel
Robert Stewart, Solo

Nothing that is worth doing can be achieved in our lifetime; therefore we must be saved by hope.
Nothing which is true or beautiful or good makes complete sense in any immediate context of history; therefore we must be saved by faith.
Nothing we do, however virtuous, can be accomplished alone; therefore we must be saved by love. – Reinhold Niebuhr

*** Canadian Composers**

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Programme Notes and Texts

Ubi Caritas
Ubi caritas et amor Deus ibi est
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor
Exsultemus et in ipso jucundemur
Timeamus et amemus Deum vivum
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero
Amen

Kyrie
Kyrie elesion,
Christe eleison,
Kyrie elesion,

Lord have mercy
Christ have mercy
Lord have mercy

Locus Iste
Locus iste a Deo factus est
in aestimabile sacramentum
irreprehensibilis est

Sanctus (from Mass for Prisioners of Conscience)
Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus
Dominus Deus Sabaoth
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua
Hosanna in excelsis

Holy, Holy, Holy
Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Venite, Populi
Venite populi, venite de longe
et admiramini gentes an alia natio tam grandis,
quae habet Deos appropinquantes sibi,
sicut Deus noster adest nobis, cuis in ara veram
presentiam contemplamur jugiter per fidem vivam.

O sors cunctis beatior,
O sors sola fidelium,

quibis panis fractio et calcis communio
est in auxilium.

Eja ergo epulemur in azymis veritatis
et sinceritatis, et inebriamur vino laetitiae
sempiternae.

Come people, come from afar
the races marvel whether there is another
nation so great,
which has gods as close to it,
as our God is to us, whose, on the altar, the
true
presence we behold, joined by a living faith

Oh most blessed inheritance,
only inheritance of the faithful,
to whom the breaking of bread and the
communion of the chalice brings succor

Yea, therefore we feast upon the unleavened
bread of truth
and purity and are intoxicated by the wine
of everlasting delight

Agneau de Dieu
Agneau de dieu,
qui portes les perche du monde,
prends pitie de nous!
donne nous la paix

O Lamb of God
who takes away the sins of the world
have mercy upon us!
grant us peace

Winter Sun
Winter Sun is a five movement work for choir and percussion ensemble. The text is based on five poems written by Canadian poet, Margaret Avison (b.1918), and are taken from three different volumes of her poetry (*Winter Sun*, *The Dumbfounding* and *No Time*). The poems all share a common description of a winter climate that is waiting for the spring thaw as the angle of the earth's Northern Hemisphere to the sun's warmth to melt the snow and ice. In the meantime, the sun lies low on the horizon, where it can still be brilliantly bright, especially in the way it shimmers off the frozen terrain, but it lacks the strength to break winter's grip.

Avison's poetry is marked by a distinctively Canadian approach to landscape and her descriptive language is coloured by words of her own invention. The lyrical flow of her phrases, coupled with the vibrant use of alliteration, contain within the lines a built-in, singing quality. Avison is an avowedly religious poet and her sense of spirituality often transcends the familiar scene that is being described. Her sharp turn of phrase gives us a sharper existential shiver and brings us hard up against something we may not always feel or be able to put in words. In these five poems, it is as if the images of nature are being used to constantly remind us of the general instability of our own existence, whether it is describing the vacant corridors allowed us by the Arctic wind or the frozen trees waiting patiently for the morning thaw. The final poem is remarkable in the way that it changes focus from the typically Northern scene of children in their winter suits to the despair of our own mortality and then back to the foreground of the present with the picture of a single boy outside with a hockey-stick.

The work is subtitled, *A Choral Symphony in C*, which refers to the compositional restriction imposed by the composer to avoid all chromatic alterations, or the black notes of a keyboard instrument. In other words, the pitches are all drawn from a C major scale or the white keys. While the symbolic aspect of this limitation will be immediately obvious, the density of the choral writing is such that the work does not really sound like it is in C major. Indeed, it is this density of the choral parts that makes the work truly symphonic. This symphonic aspect is also applicable in the way that the opening bell sonorities are used motivically throughout all movements to unify the work.

Winter Sun is dedicated to choral conductor, Doreen Rao, who has premiered, edited and published, many of John Burge's choral works.

"**Mass for Many Nations**" was commissioned by Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver, British Columbia, as a memorial to two members of its community and in honor of the ministry of their newly appointed Dean (Nov. 1994).

In keeping with their belief that *all* are welcome in this place, music at the cathedral promotes an openness in the use of various styles and traditions. In an attempt to weave this philosophy into a Mass setting, Lang has set each movement to reflect a separate aspect of the global community: **Sanctus** representing Latin American influences. **Yabban, Yamman** representing Hebrew influences. The composer hopes that individual choirs, with their congregations, will be creative and add other instruments to reflect the different cultural styles and colours (eg. Percussion, harp, etc.).

Sanctus
From the "Mass for Many Nations"
Music by Rupert Lang

Holy, holy, holy Lord God,
Holy, holy, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blest is the one who comes in your name,
Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna in the highest heaven!

Yabban Yamman
From the "Mass for Many Nations"
Music by Rupert Lang
Text by Frances Sommerville

Yabban, Yamman,
Timeless and loving creator of all.
Your name is holy.
We seek to do your will that your purpose may prevail.
We ask you for the bread of life and for the power to forgive and be forgiven.
For all your gifts and constant love
Your holy name be blest and praised now and forever.
Yabban, Yamman,
Timeless and loving creator,
Yabban, Yamman,
Now and forever,
Amen.

Like a Child
Words and music by Loretta Ellenberger
Arranged by Rupert Lang

Like a child that is quieted is my soul,
Like a child that is quieted is my soul.

Out of the depths I cry to thee,
Lord you hear my plea.
And like a child that is quieted is my soul.

Like a child I am O so restless.
Like a child I cannot be still and know that you are ruler of us all,
And you are there when I call,
Just like a child that is quieted is my soul.

And in your presence I can see
Christ in people around me.
And like a child that is quieted is my soul.

Like a child I long to trust you completely.
Like a child I cannot be still and know that you are ruler of us all,
And you are there when I call,
Just like a child that is quieted is my soul.

How Like an Angel
How like an angel came I down!
How bright are all things here!
When first among his works I did appear,
Oh, how their glory did me crown!
The world resembled his eternity,
In which my soul did walk;
And ev'rything that I did see
Did with me talk.

Biographies

The Centre for Advanced Studies in Choral Music welcomes Canadian Choral Artist-in-Residence Rupert Lang, whose visit is made possible by the generosity of the Heinrichs Foundation.

Rupert Lang took his first degree(B. Mus., Honours Performance) at the University of Manitoba. He went on to study in England where he received diplomas from the Royal School of Church Music, the Royal College of Organists and the Archbishop of Canterbury's certificate in Church Music. Lang completed his studies in England receiving an M.A.(Music) at the University of Cambridge, St. John's College, where he studied with George Guest, Gillian Weir and John Scott.

After returning to Canada, Lang was director of Music at West Vancouver United Church where he formed the Vancouver's Children Choir, and is presently Organist and Director of Music at Christ Church Cathedral. Also a composer, Lang has written innovative music for both the Cathedrial Choir and the Vancouver Children's Choir. His choral works *Cantate Domino* and *Spirit of the Child* have both been performed in Carnegie Hall. Lang has a number of compositions published by Boosey & Hawkes of New York including *How Like an Angel* which has been performed by such soloists as Judith Forst and Bruce Pullan. He has received recent comissions from as far away as Pennsylvania and locally from the Vancouver Children's Choir and the Choir Leoni Men's Choir.

Since the fall of 1987, **John Burge** (b. 1961) has been teaching in the School of Music at Queen's university, Kingston, Ontario where he currently holds position of Assistant Professor. He studied composition at the university of Toronto (B.Mus. and M.Mus.) with John Beckwith, Walter Buczynski, John Hawkins and Derek Holman, and at the University of British Columbia (D.M.A.) with Stephen Chatman. He has written music for a wide variety of mediums including many choral pieces. His choral works have been performed by the Elmer Isler Singers and Vancouver's Cantata Singers, the Phoenix Chamber Choir, the BBC Singers and numerous other choirs. His instrumental music has been played by The Nepean Symphony and New Music Concerts (Toronto). He has received comissions from both the Canada Council and the Ontario Arts Council. Included amongst the prizes he has received are a record five Young Composers Awards in three years (1985, '87, '88) from the Performing Rights Organization of Canada.

Doreen Rao's distinguished career as a conductor and teacher links the standards of professional performance with the goals of music education. Rao is celebrated for her spirited and moving concerts, her pioneering innovations in choral teaching and her visionary commitments to children's choirs, cultural diversity, emerging composers and peacemaking initiatives around the world.

Doreen Rao holds the University of Toronto Elmer Iseler Chair in Conducting. She is the Artistic Director of the New Millennium Festival and the Founding Director of the Choral Music Experience Institute for Choral Teacher Education. She serves as Editor and Choral Advisor for Boosey & Hawkes New York and London.

Founded by Doreen Rao in 1994, the University of Toronto **MacMillan Singers** were named to celebrate the legacy of Sir Ernest MacMillan, an inspired performer and devoted teacher in Canada. Representing the Faculty of Music, the choir comprises undergraduate students in vocal performance, music education, and composition. The Singers have performed and recorded a culturally diverse and distinctive repertoire with a demonstrated commitment to 20th century music. They have appeared in choral workshops, concerts, and master classes in

North America, including a performance of Mozart's *Coronation Mass* at Lincoln Center that garnered rave reviews. Doreen Rao holds the University of Toronto Elmer Iseler Chair in Conducting. Her distinguished career as conductor and teacher links the standards of professional performance with the goals of music education. Rao's commitment to choral music is recognized in her worldwide appearances and in her award winning publications.

Pianist **James Bourne** is known both as a solo performer and as a collaborative artist. He holds a postgraduate diploma in performance from the Royal College of Music (UK), along with graduate and undergraduate degrees in performance, collaborative piano, and French language and literature from the University of Western Ontario. In recent years, James has been in residence at the Banff Centre (Contemporary Opera and Song/Chamber Music), and has been a fellow of the Tanglewood Music Centre working under the baton of Seiji Ozawa. He is the recipient of numerous awards and scholarships including UWO's Alumni Gold Medal in 1996. A resident of Toronto, James maintains an active career as a coach, accompanist and chamber musician. He is delighted to be working this year with Dr. Rao and the MacMillan Singers.

The University of Toronto Faculty of Music is poised to embrace and sustain a leading role in Canada's world class choral tradition through the establishment of an international **Centre for Advanced Studies in Choral Music**. A nexus for artistic and educational collaborations that connects student singers and conductors with their community, collegiate and professional colleagues, the Centre develops innovative programs with its roster of invited guest artists, including internationally acclaimed choral conductors Sir David Willcocks and Maestro Helmuth Rilling in conducting masterclasses, educational outreach program *Ontario Sings!* bringing high school choirs to perform with the university choirs, and hosting the Elmer Iseler Singers as our professional choir-in-residence. The Centre is grateful to the Heinrichs Foundation for its generous support.

MacMillan Singers

Doreen Rao, Music Director
Lori-Anne Dolloff, Darryl Edwards, Conductors
Brad Ratzlaff, Assistant Conductor
Jennifer Haywood, Section Director
James Bourne, Pianist
Jordan Travis, Manager

Soprano
Lorelle Angelo
Heather Barnes
Lucia Cesaroni
Lisa DiMaria
Amy Doddington
Farah Hack
Jennifer Haywood
Rebecca Holton
Lindsay Isaac
Andrea Kitney
Jessica Luckett
Kathleen Moore
Kelly Tipler
Agnes Zsigovics

Alto
Jennifer Beynon
Vera Brockhuysen
Aoife Donelly
Heather Jay
Patricia Leung
Ianjai Morensey
Eric Morgan
Sarah Nicol
Jennifer Petch
Lilliana Piazza
Paola Scalisi
Bethany Solheim

Tenor
Christian Farahat
Adam Golding
Ryan Harper
Richard Iannello
Ryan Jackson
William Johnson
James Langridge
Michael Lesage
Chris Segall
Will Stokes
Jordan Travis
Sean Winchester

Bass
Joseph Angelo
Ashiq Aziz
Victor Cheung
Amos Clark
James Edwards
Jonathan Estabrooks
Stephen Hegedus
Philip Holmes
Austin Larusson
Andrew Mahon
Brad Ratzlaff
Steven Smith
Roger Yuen

FACULTY of MUSIC

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

2002-2003

Choral Music on Campus

Saturday, October 19, 8 pm, Victoria College Chapel. $12 ($6)
UNITED IN SONG
University Women's Chorus, Robert Cooper, conductor, The Master Chorale, Jennifer Haywood, conductor, combine their voices for an evening of choral pleasures.

Saturday, October 26, 8 pm, Church of the Redeemer. $12 ($6)
CELEBRATE!
MacMillan Singers, Doreen Rao conductor
The MacMillan Singers welcome award-winning composer and conductor Rupert Lang from Christ Church Cathedral Vancouver in a feast of choral music by Byrd, Duruflé, Rachmaninoff and the Toronto premiere of John Burge's Choral Symphony in C.

Saturday, November 8, 8 pm, Walter Hall. Free
Rutgers University Kirkpatrick Choir Exchange Concert with the MacMillan Chamber Singers

Saturday, November 23, 8 pm, Victoria College Chapel. $12 ($6)
PURE JOY!
University Women's Chorus, Robert Cooper conductor, performs the music of Delibes, Luengen, Mendelssohn, Berlioz and more...sacred canticles to Shakespearean songs. An evening of pure choral joy!

Friday, December 6, 8 pm, MacMillan Theatre. $12 ($6)
REMEMBRANCE
A Memorial Mass-in-concert for the Montreal Women
Doreen Rao leads the MacMillan Singers and the U of T Symphony Orchestra in a performance of Duruflé's Requiem.

Friday, February 14, 8 pm, Victoria College Chapel. $12 ($6)
THE THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE
MacMillan Singers, Darryl Edwards conductor; University Women's Chorus, Robert Cooper conductor. A fascinating look at love through various musical expressions.

Saturday, March 22, 8 pm, Knox College Chapel. $12 ($6)
MASS APPEAL
MacMillan Singers, Darryl Edwards conductor
Powerful musical settings of sacred texts.

Saturday, March 29, 8 pm, Knox College Chapel. $12 ($6)
CELESTIAL SOUNDS
University Women's Chorus, Robert Cooper conductor, presents music for voices and strings, featuring Pergolesi Stabat Mater *and* Poulenc Litanies à la Vierge Noire.

Sunday, April 6, 2 pm, Victoria College Chapel. $12 ($6)
MASTER CHORALE
Master Chorale, Jennifer Haywood, conductor. Concert featuring guest artist, Young Men's Chorus of Ithaca.

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As of October 10, 2002

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